CHANGES TO SCHOOL ATTENDANCE POLICY

I would like to draw your attention to changes that have been made to the Department of Education and Communities (DEC) School Attendance Policy. Attached to this bulletin is an information sheet for parents and carers. Please read through this carefully so that you understand the new changes and how they may impact you. It is a timely reminder that school starts promptly at 9am. Students need to be at school before this time so that they are ready to begin their school day on time. Late arrivals are very disruptive and impact learning, not only your child’s learning but that of their peers. Please make a concerted effort to ensure your child attends school on time. In addition, if your child is absent from school, please provide an explanation as soon as possible for their absence. A written note or phone call to the office is appreciated.

DIARY DATES TO REMEMBER:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>Monday 9th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pet Day K-2</td>
<td>Thursday 12th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter Life Education</td>
<td>Friday 12th/13th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Disco</td>
<td>Friday 27th March</td>
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SCHOOL FEES TO BE SET BY P&C AT NEXT MEETING

At our next P&C meeting, the parent group will set 2015 Voluntary Contribution Fees for our students. Although these fees are voluntary they help the school to provide books, paper, craft and art materials and a variety of hands on equipment used by all grades. We are confident that you will see the value of supporting the school by paying these fees. In 2014 they were very reasonable and much cheaper than those of nearby public schools. We anticipate the costs being similar this year. Costs for K-2 students in 2014 were $30 per year and for 3-6 students $35 per year. Parents will be informed in the next bulletin of the new fee costs for 2015.

Please be aware that the school does not hold cash on its premises and so we don’t always have correct change available. If you are able to send in or bring in the correct amount we would appreciate it. If you require change, then we may need a day or two to organise it.

HUNTER LIFE EDUCATION NEXT WEEK 12TH/13TH MARCH

The Hunter Life Education Van will be visiting Lochinvar Public School on Thursday, 12th and Friday, 13th March. All classes will participate in lessons that provide information about making healthy life choices. We participate in this program every two years so that the students have the opportunity to access a new program each time the Life Education Van makes a visit. Thanks to the generosity of the P&C the cost of the visit for students has been significantly reduced from $10 to $5 per child. Please have permission notes and money returned by Wednesday, 11th of March. If students are purchasing merchandise please complete the order form and send this in an envelope with the correct money by Thursday of next week.
**P&C ARE BUSY AT THE MOMENT**
As you are all aware our first fundraiser is set for 27th March. Our School disco will be held this year under the COLA with a dress up theme, come as your favourite movie character. There are some great activities planned for the night including a family sausage sizzle and competitions for best dressed. Entry is $2 per child with food and drink sales all very affordable. Glow sticks, lollies and drinks will also be on sale from the canteen. This will be our first fundraiser of the year, so please help us make it a success. The next P & C meeting will be held on Monday, 9th March at 3:15pm in the Library. Please come along as we will be planning future fundraising activities. It is always great to see new faces so come and join us. Our P&C will hold their Annual General Meeting at school in the coming weeks. A date will be set at the next P & C meeting and will be advertised as soon as possible. We would love to see some of our new parents join us for this meeting. We have a very capable group of parents but we are always looking for new parents and new ideas. Pre-schoolers are also welcome.

**HIGH SCHOOL ENROLMENT FOR YEAR 6 STUDENTS**
All Year 6 students will receive a form to complete for their transition to high school for 2016. Even if your child is applying for a position in the private system, we still need you to complete the form and return it to school. Whatever your choices for high school whether they are public or private the forms are important as all students need to be transferred as a new enrolment in 2016 and this is the first step in that process. It also allows your chosen high school to communicate with you directly regarding your child’s transition to high school.

**HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHT**
All Year 6 students and their parents/carers are invited to attend an information session being held at Rutherford High school on Tuesday, 3rd March at 5:30pm. Students and parents/carers will receive information on enrolment procedures for high school as well as programs offered to students in year 7. Students and parents/carers will also be able to tour the high school and look at the new developments currently being undertaken.

**NAPLAN ASSESSMENTS FOR YEAR 3 AND 5 STUDENTS**
If your child is in year 3 or year 5 they will be involved in the national assessment program for literacy and numeracy skills. The tests will take place in May 2015. These assessments cover a variety of literacy skills including reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, numeracy and patterns, space and measurement. Parents receive a written report on student achievement in this assessment during Term 3.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ZONE SWIMMING REPRESENTATIVES**
Lochinvar Public School was well represented at the Zone Swimming Carnival last Tuesday. Our Zone reps were Reece, Blake, Jacqueline, Aiden, Will, Sarah, Chelsea, Emmie, Eva and Joseph. We congratulate them on their performances at this difficult level of competition and thank them for representing our school so well. Well done, swimmers!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ZONE RUGBY LEAGUE FINALISTS**
Lochinvar Public School was well represented at the Zone Rugby League trials last fortnight. Our Zone reps were Will, Aiden, Bayden and Lachlan. We congratulate the boys on their efforts at this level of competition and thank them for representing our school so well. Well done Will and Aiden for securing a position in the 2015 PSSA Zone Rugby League team.
ASSEMBLY AWARDS

KINDERGARTEN
James - attentive listening and following instructions.
Jake - starting the school day in a positive manner.
Harrison - increased participation in class activities.
Cooper - increased effort completing set tasks.

YEAR K/1
Tiarna - writing a great recount.
Zoe - great work in Maths.
Jett - working hard in all areas.
Jun Hee - asking great questions in class discussions.

YEAR 1/2
Jake - great story writing.
Kadence - writing a great sentence about the Big Bad Wolf.
Josh - quick mental addition.
Madison - great writing.

YEAR 3/4
Purusha - taking pride in his book work.
Taj - working hard to improve his handwriting.
Blake - being a caring and helpful class member.
Reece - for a great ‘having a go attitude!’
his contributions in class discussions.

YEAR 4/5/6
Cynthia - being a co-operative class member.
Liam Johnson - excellent bookwork.
Sarah Moy - participating in class discussions.

ASSEMBLY ITEM PRESENTED BY:
Class 3/4 - Visual literacy - Frog illustrations.
Imaginative writing
Canteen News: The canteen will be open for lunch time only tomorrow (Wednesday, 4th March). Attached is a copy of the Term Roster, I would like to remind families that Friday specials are the only lunch time items available for lunch.